



Town of Mahone Bay
Staff Report
RE: Bandstand Phase 3
February 9th, 2021

General Overview:

This report is intended to provide Council an update concerning the Bandstand Phase 3 project included in the 2020-21 annual budget approved May 12, 2020.

Background:

At the regular meeting of Council for September 26, 2019 Council approved Phase 2 of improvements to the Town bandstand on Main St. Phase 2 improvements (supported by \$10,000 from the Provincial ACCESS-ability Program) were to consist of the following components:

- Walkway \$12,377 (including HST, after rebate)
- Bleachers \$8,760 (including HST, after rebate)
- Metal or Composite Roofing \$12,600 (including HST, after rebate)

Phase 2 improvements were completed by the Spring of 2020, including the addition of a new community flagpole at Council's direction (replacing the pole donated to the Town by the Mahone Bay Centre Society). Also during Phase 2 of improvements to the bandstand the Council approved a request to dedicate the bandstand as the Michael O'Connor Memorial Bandstand. On the basis of this dedication a charitable donations campaign has been undertaken to support further improvement of the bandstand with over \$5,000 received to date.

Analysis:

In the context of Phase 2 improvements wrapping up and an ongoing donations campaign (and pending recognition of the dedication), Council included a Bandstand Phase 3 project in the 2020-21 annual budget approved May 12, 2020, with the understanding that this project would be further developed on the basis of engagement with facility users and the public, prior to application for external funding to the [Canada Cultural Spaces Fund](#) (leveraging donations received). Due to COVID-19 most organized activities at the bandstand – including the annual Mahone Bay Music Association and Swing Band concert series' – were cancelled and engagement on further improvements was delayed. COVID-19 has also resulted in additional potential funding sources for future improvements to the bandstand – and potentially other public-use spaces belonging to the Town – including the [Canada Healthy Communities Initiative](#).

In accordance with the Town's Public Engagement Policy a proposed Engagement Plan to inform design of the Bandstand Phase 3 project is attached as Appendix A to this report.

Financial Analysis:

The annual budget approved May 12, 2020 committed \$5,000 from the Town to be leveraged with donations and matched by external funding, to a proposed \$20,000 budget. This would need to be refined based on engagement, for consideration in 2021-22 budget process, prior to external funding application in the Spring of 2021 (for work in the Fall of 2021).

Strategic Plan:

3.2 Economic and Community Development

- Enhance recreation and open space opportunities

Recommendation:

It is recommended,

THAT Council approve the Bandstand Phase 3 Engagement Plan.

Attached for Council Review:

- Bandstand Phase 3 Engagement Plan

Respectfully Submitted,



Dylan Heide
Town of Mahone Bay CAO



Town of Mahone Bay Public Engagement Plan: Bandstand Phase 3

Presented to Council: Feb 9, 2021

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Town of Mahone Bay public engagement is:

- Meaningful;
- Informed;
- Timely;
- Accessible;
- Transparent;
- Appropriately scaled;

NATURE OF ENGAGEMENT

- **Matter for which public engagement is being sought:**
Design of Bandstand Phase 3 project (further improvements to Michael O'Connor Memorial Bandstand in 2021).
- **How input will be used:**
To inform project design for recommendation to Council.
- **Identified stakeholders:**
Project donors (present and future). Residents of the Town of Mahone Bay. Facility users (Swing Band, Music Association, local events organizers, etc.). Businesses / Tourism operators / Mahone Bay Tourism & Chamber of Commerce (MBTCC).
- **Impact of the matter on stakeholders:**
Project will impact current and potential uses of the Michael O'Connor Memorial Bandstand, potentially support expanded use of the facility.
- **Timeline for engagement / decision:**
February-March 2021.
- **What information is required to participate and where is it available:**
Knowledge of the bandstand facility; easily accessible on Main St.. Staff will prepare a brief summary of past activities at the bandstand to include in promotion of engagement opportunities.

- **Particular circumstances (including states of emergency and public health directives):**
COVID-19 public health directives limiting in-person gatherings.

ENGAGEMENT TOOLS

Which public engagement tools will be utilized:

- Public hearing;**
- In-person meetings, round-table discussions, town halls, open houses, or workshops;**
- Digital engagement which may include including webinars, message boards / discussion forums, and online polls or surveys;**

Notes: A Zoom session for identified stakeholders and the public to discuss current uses and potential improvements to the bandstand facility, with associated report to Council.

- Written engagement which may include written submissions, email feedback, and mail-in surveys, polls and workbooks;**

Notes: Written / email submissions accepted in initial feedback period presented to Council with Zoom session report. Open public survey on current uses and potential improvements, coordinated with Zoom session.

- Engagement by representation including the appointment of members of the public to Town committees;**
- Providing information through the media, websites, social media, and other channels;**

Notes: Engagement activities including survey to be promoted via website and social media as well as Mayor's Newsletter.

- Other:**

REQUIRED RESOURCES

- **Communication plan to inform the public about the public engagement plan and opportunities to provide input:**

Engagement activities including survey to be promoted via website and social media as well as Mayor's Newsletter.

- **Required resources and costs:**

Organizing, promoting and executing Zoom session and public survey, and generating report to Council estimated at 12 hours staff time.